

The Formentera Council's culture and tourism departments report that June 6–9, the Formentera Jazz Festival will return to the island for its fifth year. The Council-sponsored event is the creation of musician, cultural producer and Formentera native Maxwell Moya.

Moya describes FJF's fifth edition as "a combination of energy and art, plus local, national and international music". Steadily growing since it first took root five years ago, the festival is expected to welcome some five thousand in 2019.

"These last five years have been beautiful to watch", Moya said. "The festival has established itself on the island and cemented its place on the social and cultural scene", he continued, "we're thrilled that both locals and attendees from further afield have made this show their own".

In terms of performers, the FJF director and founder insisted this year's festival would "stay true to its roots. We've got a special place in our hearts for jazz, but the festival is open to so much more". Moya made assurances that the other musical genres which have notably influenced jazz—hip-hop, fun, Latin jazz, Brazilian music, flamenco and even electronic music—would be featured as well.

Free admission

The festival is completely free and open to the public. This year festival-goers can catch performances at a number of venues, including Constitució square in Sant Francesc, Blue Bar on Migjorn, Chezz Gerdi in es Pujols and—new this year—Sa Panxa in Sant Ferran.

Artists

Tonina Saputo, Perico Sambeat, Max Holm Trio, Ermanno Panta & Banda Zeitun, Dj Uri Calleja and Midi Jazz Club are the first names on the line-up to be announced so far.

Jam session

As ever, the closing night of FJF will feature a jam session with all musicians, professionals and amateurs alike, on the island. It will be the chance to spotlight jazz music's stock in trade: improvisation.

CiF culture councillor Susana Labrador stressed that the Formentera Council supports FJF as a way to stimulate local culture and bolster entertainment options for tourists and residents.

The coming days will see the announcement of other artists and activities on the 2019 festival programme currently still pending confirmation. All the details can be found at: http://www.formenterajazzfestival.com/

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